

CONSERVATION

Fish and game harvested in Wisconsin, 2021–22

Fish¹			
Great Lakes trout	131,434	Coyote	41,621
Great Lakes salmon	191,898	Deer (with guns)	209,288
Game and fowl²		Deer (with bows)	99,141
Wild turkey	41,237	Elk	7
Pheasant	224,098	Bear	3,847
Ruffed grouse	155,234	Duck	318,700
Gray partridge	—	Canada goose	111,505
Bobwhite quail	—	Furbearers²	
Woodcock	54,598	Woodchuck	965
Squirrel	197,647	Muskrat	135,215
Cottontail rabbit	61,230	Mink	4,230
Snowshoe hare	3,624	Beaver	15,351
Doves	41,874	River otter	1,784
Raccoon	70,424	Bobcat	1078
Red fox	4,657	Opossum	6,718
Gray fox	1,665	Skunk	3,692
		Fisher	641

—Represents zero.

1. Based on the 2014–15 diary survey, the DNR estimates the total number of fish caught as 51,704,570 and the total number harvested at 13,436,401. These are underestimates, because they do not include fish caught or harvested by unlicensed anglers, short-term license holders, or senior citizen discount license holders. 2. Deer, bear, turkey, bobcat, otter, and fisher data are all from hunter-registered harvest. Remaining data are from hunter surveys.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, departmental data, April 2023.

Fish and game stocked in Wisconsin, 2021–22

Game farm pheasants released	79,542
Warmwater fish produced and distributed (includes fry)	52,325,334
Coldwater fish	7,895,524

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, departmental data, April 2023.

Fish and game licenses and recreation permits issued in Wisconsin

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Boats actively registered	630,134	619,319	609,957	625,273	628,423	618,782
Snowmobiles actively registered	223,938	214,661	211,624	229,118	231,513	226,981
All-terrain vehicles actively registered	382,029	400,285	418,345	447,917	473,433	488,103
Off-highway motorcycles actively registered ¹	2,245	3,608	4,209	5,234	6,738	7,320
Gun deer hunting and license tags (including nonresident) ²	488,826	472,370	460,314	454,394	447,172	437,901
Small game hunting license tags (including nonresident) ²	120,103	109,155	109,943	120,213	113,514	112,265
Spring turkey licenses (including nonresident) ²	93,689	87,429	86,047	90,313	89,405	85,080
Fall turkey licenses (including nonresident) ²	15,298	21,767	21,114	25,240	22,931	23,297

Fish and game licenses and recreation permits issued in Wisconsin, continued

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Resident annual fishing licenses ³	686,253	652,561	647,672	738,472	671,640	643,576
Resident husband and wife fishing licenses	190,994	187,471	179,962	201,922	189,714	176,798
1-day resident fishing licenses	10,566	9,767	9,616	10,912	10,402	9,830
Nonresident annual fishing licenses	120,563	113,594	113,380	132,288	133,317	121,313
Nonresident family annual fishing licenses	54,324	53,548	53,080	58,883	61,197	57,244
15-day nonresident family fishing licenses	23,282	22,424	22,109	21,082	21,583	19,615
15-day nonresident fishing licenses	24,956	24,973	24,326	22,622	25,297	23,381
4-day nonresident fishing licenses	52,288	51,184	50,804	46,555	52,360	47,538
1-day nonresident fishing licenses	64,394	60,211	59,675	58,926	61,453	56,212
Resident sports licenses	44,567	48,140	48,700	56,003	52,819	51,288
Nonresident sports licenses	3,147	3,403	3,344	3,630	3,640	3,551
2-day Great Lakes fishing licenses	37,837	36,174	34,412	32,947	39,067	35,053
Resident archer's licenses ²	143,244	130,524	119,785	125,075	114,845	108,978
Nonresident archer's licenses ²	8,928	8,782	9,452	10,879	10,009	9,733
Guide licenses (residents only)	1,592	1,789	1,790	2,019	2,121	1,995
Conservation patron licenses	51,889	52,633	52,590	55,805	61,264	62,717
Nonresident patron licenses	1,213	1,039	857	1,026	1,045	1,040
Resident crossbow licenses ⁴	70,855	77,988	93,681	112,905	104,440	107,757
Nonresident crossbow licenses ⁴	2,093	2,453	3,042	3,514	4,158	4,539
Elk licenses ⁵	NA	5	5	5	4	4

NA—Not available.

1. DNR began registering off-highway motorcycles in 2016. 2. Includes mentored licenses. 3. Includes senior and junior fishing licenses. First-time buyer junior and senior licenses were created in 2020. 4. Includes mentored licenses. Does not include upgrades. 5. The first Wisconsin elk season was held in 2018, Wisconsin issued permits only.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, departmental data, March 2023.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources funding sources

	2016–17 (\$1,000)	2017–18 (\$1,000)	2018–19 (\$1,000)	2019–20 (\$1,000)	2020–21 (\$1,000)	2021–22 (\$1,000)
Segregated funds	432,415	427,135	455,533	453,397	461,976	462,874
All-terrain vehicle registration fees	3,954	5,471	4,174	6,340	7,010	6,673
Boat registration fees	5,165	5,573	5,380	5,428	4,873	6,239
Dry cleaner fund	576	572	928	437	426	323
Endangered resources voluntary payments	1,688	1,422	271	650	693	317
Environmental improvement fund	1,408	1,729	1,752	1,661	701	881
Environmental management account	48,057	44,353	47,984	46,991	48,177	47,061
Federal aids	103,659	104,553	123,313	112,367	114,909	124,852
Fishing, hunting licenses and permits	59,181	60,932	57,476	66,822	66,048	68,783
Forestry mill tax	109,699	98,883	103,166	101,948	107,002	104,856
Gifts and donations	641	932	953	798	1,618	522
Heritage State Parks and Forests Trust Fund	94	33	183	35	222	41
Nonpoint source account	15,866	15,055	14,960	14,646	13,914	12,694
Park stickers and fees	19,068	21,605	23,001	22,590	23,527	23,830
Petroleum storage environmental cleanup fund	10,964	12,351	14,403	11,442	10,866	6,816
Program revenue ¹	35,280	36,634	39,724	43,526	44,149	40,397
Snowmobile registration fees	3,737	3,873	4,370	4,162	5,212	6,225
Waste management fund	18	438	307	134	113	49
Water resources account	12,893	12,306	12,744	12,991	12,037	11,831
Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine	467	420	444	429	479	484
General funds	164,092	158,356	176,422	165,944	168,673	166,158
General purpose revenue	106,900	97,746	113,768	98,444	99,223	100,956
Program revenues	20,227	22,983	20,978	22,866	23,315	20,342
Program revenue—services	9,455	7,860	10,464	12,899	12,544	12,320

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources funding sources, continued

	2016–17 (\$1,000)	2017–18 (\$1,000)	2018–19 (\$1,000)	2019–20 (\$1,000)	2020–21 (\$1,000)	2021–22 (\$1,000)
Federal aids	27,510	29,767	31,212	31,735	33,591	32,540
Total	596,507	585,491	631,955	619,341	630,649	629,032

—Represents zero.

1. Includes all segregated expenditures in assigned or dedicated appropriations.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, departmental data, March 2023.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources expenditures

Program	2016–17 (\$1,000)	2017–18 (\$1,000)	2018–19 (\$1,000)	2019–20 (\$1,000)	2020–21 (\$1,000)	2021–22 (\$1,000)
Fish, wildlife, and parks (FWP)	87,401	85,706	93,519	93,547	98,509	102,848
Wildlife management	21,248	24,285	27,854	26,819	27,910	29,732
Southern forests	5,540	5,455	5,823	5,783	6,387	6,322
Fisheries management	25,509	26,322	26,441	27,943	28,200	29,655
Parks	17,720	17,842	17,802	17,256	19,637	19,528
Endangered resources	6,648	6,939	8,210	8,288	7,249	8,322
Facilities and lands	9,438	—	—	—	—	—
Property management	—	3,744	6,168	6,275	7,781	7,497
FWP program management	1,298	1,119	1,221	1,183	1,345	1,792
Forestry	61,655	53,403	58,092	56,441	59,222	59,420
Public safety and resource protection (PSRP)	40,425	36,145	35,315	39,378	37,374	37,315
Law enforcement	31,230	35,383	34,598	39,378	37,374	37,315
Integrated science services	8,356	—	—	—	—	—
Enforcement/science program management	839	762	717	—	—	—
Environmental management (EM)	69,667	72,080	75,960	79,291	82,239	79,503
Drinking and groundwater	13,464	13,755	14,952	15,498	15,784	16,312
Water quality	22,922	23,299	27,044	27,104	24,829	25,428
Air management	13,366	10,911	13,166	13,009	13,365	12,782
Waste and materials management	7,106	7,159	7,376	7,225	8,094	8,068
Remediation and redevelopment	10,529	15,689	12,159	14,985	18,869	15,673
EM program management	2,280	1,267	1,263	1,470	1,298	1,240
Conservation aids	43,735	44,718	47,270	48,501	50,339	56,472
Fish and wildlife aids	1,367	848	1,862	1,516	2,329	2,356
Forestry aids	8,571	8,005	9,611	8,091	8,724	8,913
Recreational aids	12,105	13,825	13,694	16,422	15,961	18,342
Aids in lieu of taxes	16,975	17,140	17,229	17,325	17,937	20,764
Enforcement aids	2,277	2,277	2,277	2,532	2,532	2,913
Wildlife damage aids	2,440	2,623	2,597	2,615	2,856	3,184
Environmental aids	35,803	35,669	38,090	33,961	33,656	29,135
Water quality aids	6,839	6,260	6,307	6,269	8,696	8,329
Solid and hazard waste aids	21,103	20,829	20,162	20,411	20,000	20,000
Environmental aids	5,912	6,509	9,011	5,677	4,508	303
Environmental planning aids	294	365	303	285	452	503
Nonpoint aids	1,655	1,706	2,307	1,319	—	—
Debt service	116,781	105,634	123,473	105,167	102,627	98,686
Resource	87,567	79,399	93,821	79,788	80,786	78,237
Environmental	4,856	4,093	4,470	4,077	4,050	3,854
Water quality	20,766	18,737	21,282	17,901	14,352	12,891
Administrative facility	3,592	3,405	3,900	3,401	3,439	3,704
Acquisition and development	9,479	9,690	9,276	9,873	8,705	8,403
Wildlife	995	741	1,497	2,176	2,582	1,306
Fish	752	314	552	220	227	185
Forestry	1,572	285	314	1,070	625	643

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources expenditures, continued

Program	2016-17 (\$1,000)	2017-18 (\$1,000)	2018-19 (\$1,000)	2019-20 (\$1,000)	2020-21 (\$1,000)	2021-22 (\$1,000)
Southern forests	379	327	233	475	722	707
Parks	2,310	1,639	3,492	2,649	2,457	3,166
Endangered resources	320	254	85	121	55	57
Facilities and lands	3,142	5,530	1,529	1,657	966	1,532
Property management	—	600	1,574	1,505	1,070	807
Law Enforcement	4	—	—	—	1	—
Water resources	5	—	—	—	—	—
Administration	21,986	24,191	22,180	23,751	26,012	23,916
Administration	1,906	1,437	1,486	1,593	1,510	1,668
Legal services	2,158	2,210	2,439	2,450	2,539	2,638
Management and budget	427	640	446	612	562	384
Facility rental	7,651	7,498	7,676	7,524	7,646	7,570
Nonbudget accounts ¹	9,844	12,406	10,133	11,572	13,755	11,656
Internal services (IS)	20,287	31,193	32,312	32,884	32,450	34,053
Finance	6,837	6,893	6,329	6,396	6,487	7,073
Facilities and lands	—	9,164	8,064	8,338	8,318	8,719
Technology services	9,691	8,840	10,812	11,601	11,284	11,716
Human resources	3,759	2,686	2,900	2,645	2,694	2,354
IS program management	—	3,610	4,207	3,904	3,667	4,191
External Services (EX)	89,170	87,062	96,464	96,527	99,515	99,280
Watershed management	14,455	14,321	16,490	17,505	20,134	9,283
Waterways	—	—	—	—	—	10,621
Office of communication	923	723	728	1,246	1,224	1,213
Community financial assistance	56,611	55,920	61,365	60,714	60,581	60,705
Customer & outreach services	11,143	9,957	10,473	10,047	10,017	9,513
Environmental analysis & sustainability	3,084	5,123	5,795	6,104	6,523	6,984
EX program management	2,954	1,018	1,613	911	1,036	961
Total	596,389	585,491	631,951	619,321	630,648	629,031

Note: Subtotals and total do not add due to rounding.

—Represents zero.

1. Includes gifts, donations, and non-budget appropriations.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, departmental data, March 2023.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources land acquisition acres

Fiscal year	Northern forests	Southern forests	Natural areas	Parks	Wild rivers	Wildlife mgt.	Fisheries mgt.	Other	Total
2000 ¹	496	110	3,301	3,705	16,135	11,800	2,808	136	38,489
2005	6,578	475	7,477	3,842	10,692	5,385	2,308	329	37,086
2010	8,547	37	3,498	1,000	818	3,767	785	73	18,525
2015	14,446	10	455	1,049	81	1,404	843	218	18,506
2016	22,340	92	245	358	4	6,671	358	85	30,152
2017	7,285	44	1,040	359	146	990	355	12	10,230
2018	20,816	1	4	17	21	844	444	3	22,150
2019	14,392	—	—	108	—	356	339	10	15,205
2020	—	—	—	412	69	322	182	—	985
2021	843	—	51	287	29	399	166	—	1,775
2022	11,720	—	25	916	104	2,919	91	—	15,775
Total	336,949	7,462	78,120	42,072	106,791	128,618	47,548	6,883	754,443

—Represents zero.

1. The Stewardship 2000 program replaced the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship Program in 2000.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Facilities and Lands, departmental data, April 2023.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources land acquisition cost

Fiscal year	Northern forests (\$1,000)	Southern forests (\$1,000)	Natural areas (\$1,000)	Parks (\$1,000)	Wild rivers (\$1,000)	Wildlife mgt. (\$1,000)	Fisheries mgt. (\$1,000)	Other (\$1,000)	Total (\$1,000)
2000 ¹	550	403	3,472	2,734	12,633	9,061	2,861	352	32,066
2005	2,418	3,050	4,993	16,693	3,591	8,164	5,034	401	44,345
2010	5,867	272	5,448	2,881	2,119	6,693	2,232	122	25,634
2015	1,154	30	782	884	899	2,315	1,390	40	7,493
2016	189	660	719	1,273	7	1,328	682	40	4,896
2017	213	250	2,148	74	520	192	369	—	3,767
2018	3	—	—	—	—	60	71	—	134
2019	4,341	—	—	86	—	176	462	1,100	6,165
2020	—	—	—	693	186	635	528	—	2,042
2021	666	—	87	1,300	379	272	278	—	2,982
2022	4,649	187	46	1,714	54	842	203	—	7,695
Total	149,946	32,878	69,025	92,799	97,468	131,494	70,340	11,418	655,367

—Represents zero.

1. The Stewardship 2000 program replaced the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship Program in 2000.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Facilities and Lands, departmental data, April 2023.

